Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 OMB-01 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 AID-05 XMB-02 ITC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /071 W

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R 022100Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 345

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRASILIA 1652

PASS TREASURY FOR WILLIAM MC FADDEN

EO 11652 NA TAGS EFIN BR SUBJECT: VISIT OF FINANCE MINISTER SIMONSEN

REF BRASILIA 1480

1. ARY PINTO, FINANCE MINISTER SIMONSEN'S
ADVISOR FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, HAS INFORMED FINATT THAT IT
WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR SIMONSEN TO BE IN WASHINGTON
ON MARCH 10 BUT HE WOULD BE VERY PLEASED TO COME ON MARCH 15.
PINTO EXPLAINED THAT WHEN SIMONSEN TALKED TO THE AMBASSADOR FROM
HIS SUMMER RESIDENCE AT TERESOPOLIS AND SUGGESTED THE WEEK OF
MARCH 7-11 (AS PER REFTEL) HE DID NOT HAVE HIS AGENDA WHITH
HIM AND DID NOT REALIZE THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO
TRAVEL THAT WEEK. PINTO INDICATED THAT MARCH 15 IS A FIRM DATE AND
WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION SOONEST.

2. IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR THE MINISTER'S TRIP, PINTO AND DORNELLES WOULD LIKE TO VISIT WASHINGTON ON MARCH 10 AND CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY DESIGNATE BERGSTEN AND OTHER TREASURY OFFICIALS. SPECIFICALLY, THEY WISH TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF WORKING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OUT A PACKAGE WHICH COULD LEAD TO THE WAIVER OF COUNTERVAILING DUTIES ON SCISSORS AND SHEARS AND COTTON YARN, SIMILAR TO THE SCHEME ARRANGED DURING SECRETARY SIMON'S TRIP TO BRAZIL LAST MAY. IF SUCH A SCHEME COULD BE AGREED UPON, THE PLAN WOULD BE TO ANNOUNCE IT AT THE END OF SIMONSEN'S TRIP. THEY WOULD ALSO WISH TO DISCUSS THE SHOE CASE AND, POSSIBLY, FINANCIAL ISSUES DEALING WITH THE MULTILATERAL LENDING AGENCIES.

3. FINALLY, PINTO CONFIRMD THAT THE MINISTER WOULD BE
DEPARTING BRAZIL UNDER THE PRETEXT OF GOING TO NEW YORK TO SPEAK
TO THE AMERICAN -BRAZIL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE(SEE BRASILIA 0901) AND
THAT THE MEETING WITH SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL WOULD BE ANNOUNCED
ONLY AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN THE US.CRIMMINS

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